

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: NEBRASKA CAPITOL ENVIRONS COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, November 10, 2005, 9:00 a.m., Legislative Hearing Room 1510, Nebraska State Capitol, 15th and K Streets, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Members:	Jim Hewitt, Karen Kilgarin, Tom Laging, V.J. Nelson, Patrick O'Donnell, Jeff Searcy and Kim Todd
Others:	Lynn Johnson and Jerry Shorney (Parks and Recreation); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department).

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Meeting of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission

Chair Searcy called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of meeting notes of August 25, 2005

Hewitt moved approval of the August 25, 2005 meeting notes, seconded by Laging. Motion carried 7-0. Hewitt, Kilgarin, Laging, Nelson, O'Donnell, Searcy and Todd voting 'yes'.

Elements for 2005 annual report of Commission

Ed Zimmer began by stating that the ordinance of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission requires that the Commission meet at least four times per year. We have met that requirement by meeting eight times in 2005. We have been timely with responses on design review projects. Major projects over the past year have included the following:

- Department of Labor new building
- Farmer's Mutual new building
- Demolition of property owned by Nebco between 11th and 12th Streets
- Landscape plans for McPhee School
- New sign at UStop
- Downtown Master Plan
- Noodles & Co. at 14th and P Streets
- Continued discussions regarding Centennial Mall

Todd noted that students are currently working on the McPhee project and they will present it to the principal and staff the week of Thanksgiving.

Johnson stated that an intern spent the summer looking at Centennial Mall. She has drawings for each of the blocks she created. She has cost estimates as well. They intend to send the drawings out for review and then revise them as needed. Bob Ripley is going to ask for money to continue work on the project.

Johnson noted that work has been done on the north side of Centennial Mall. Tree boxes have been taken out, and there have been new rose plantings put in.

Request for NCEC to sponsor renaming South 15th Street (A to H Streets) “Goodhue Boulevard.”

Nelson stated that numerous improvements have been made to 15th Street. Trees were removed and turf was put in. The light fixtures were changed. There is a beautiful vista looking from A Street. There is also a precedent with renaming the four quadrants. The homeowners she has spoken with are happy to have positive attention brought to the area.

Zimmer stated that the Commission expressed support for this project a couple years ago, but did not adopt the project. They wanted to get input from the neighborhood association first. The request will go directly to City Council. There has to be an entity requesting the change. There are approximately 30 addresses that face South Street from A to H with approximately 100 dwelling units. With a formal petition, the Planning Department would correspond with the property owners to inform them of the requested change.

Hewitt stated that initially he did not support the project, but has since changed his opinion.

O'Donnell stated that he feels it is important to inform the tenants of the name change, rather than having them read about it in the newspaper. He suggested that staff determine the appropriate way to do this.

Nelson moved to sponsor the project to rename South 15th Street from A to H Streets to “Goodhue Boulevard”, seconded by Hewitt. Motion carried 7-0. Hewitt, Kilgarin, Laging, Nelson, O'Donnell, Searcy and Todd voting ‘yes’.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.